



Coastal Japan: Imperial Dynasties and Modern Culture

Step back in time on a voyage into Japan's riveting history, from the historic castle towns of the Edo period to the elegant shrines and merchant districts of the Meiji era to the poignant sites of World War II. Venture into the homes of samurai and feudal lords, and discover exquisite centuries-old gardens and temples. Take a detour to South Korea to discover the ancient city of Gyeongju, and explore Japanese artistic traditions of the past and present.

From
\$ 27,215 / per person
Does not include flights



DATES

Sep



DURATION

15 Days



SHIPS

National Geographic Resolution



STARTS AT

Kobe, Japan

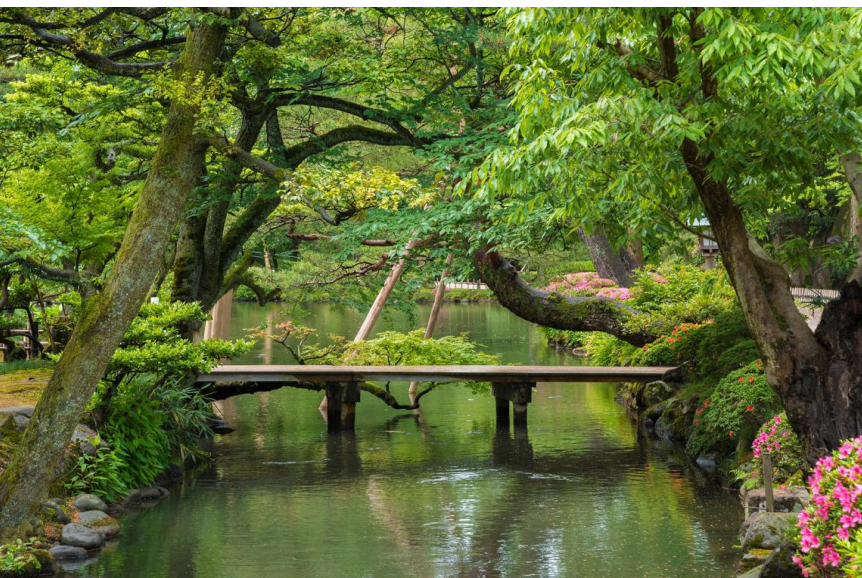
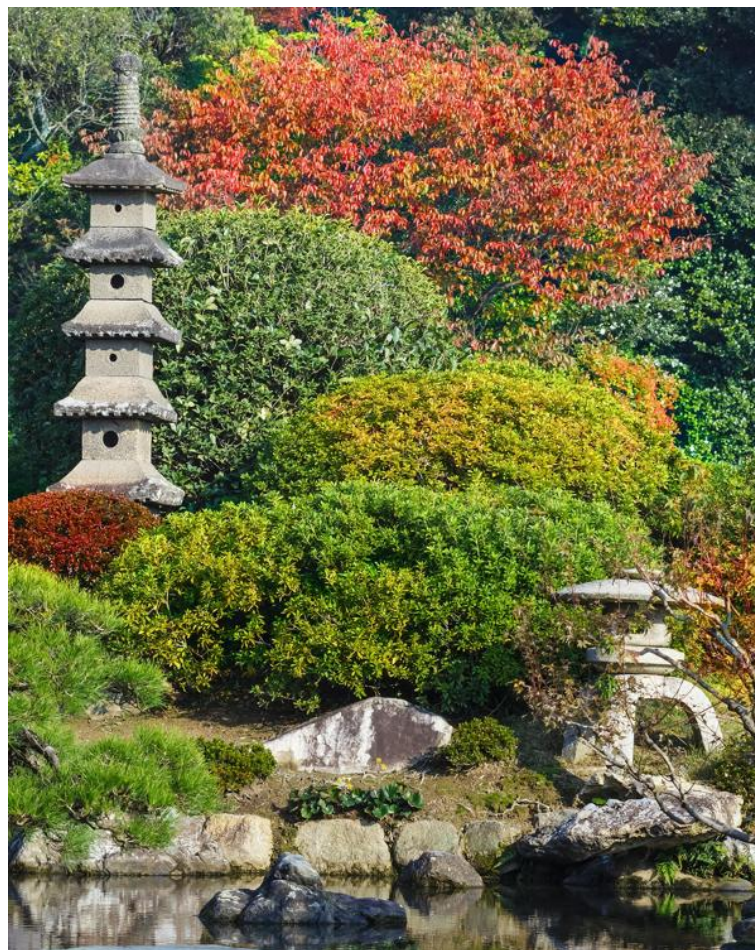


ENDS AT

Kanazawa,
Japan

Highlights

- ★ Delve into the history of the samurai and their feudal lords while visiting castles and samurai districts in Kanazawa, Matsue, and Uwajima
- ★ Explore the cultural legacy of Korea's Silla Dynasty among the ancient ruins of Gyeongju, a UNESCO World Heritage site
- ★ Get inspired on the art-filled island of Naoshima, and visit museums and studios dedicated to artists and traditional handicrafts in Matsue and Takamatsu
- ★ Meander through Kenroku-en, Koraku-en, and Sengan-en, three gardens that are considered some of the most beautiful in Japan





Day by day

■ DAY 1

Osaka, Japan / Kobe / Embark Ship

Arrive in Osaka, transfer to Kobe, and embark *National Geographic Resolution*.

Arrival Time: Arrive before 9:00 a.m. local time.

Arrival City: Osaka, Japan

Meals included: dinner

◇ DAY 2

Okayama / Kurashiki

Dock in Okayama and head for one of Japan's "three best landscape gardens": Koraku-en. Wander paths that wind along forest streams and past traditional teahouses tucked amid maple and cherry trees. See the black-walled Okayama Castle, before continuing to the former shipping center of Kurashiki, where centuries-old rice granaries line a lovely canal. Browse local handicrafts, and visit the renowned Ohara Museum of Art and the 18th-century Ohashi House.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 3

Naoshima / Takamatsu

The small island of Naoshima was transformed from a dwindling community to a vibrant art center by Benesse Holdings, which began inviting artists and architects to create a hub for the arts in the early 1990s. Discover the island's cutting-edge creations, from an underground museum designed by renowned architect Tadao Ando to the famous polka-dotted pumpkins of Yayoi Kusama. After lunch, cross to Takamatsu on Shikoku Island. Explore Shikoku Mur, an open-air museum that showcases traditional building styles. End the day at the Noguchi Garden Museum, which features the

sculptures and workshop of Japanese-American artist Isamu Noguchi.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 4

Miyajima / Hiroshima

Start the day on the island of Miyajima, home of Itsukushima Shrine, a UNESCO World Heritage site known for its red torii gate that seems to float atop the water at high tide. In Hiroshima, visit the Peace Memorial Park. See the Atomic Bomb Dome, one of only a few buildings left standing after the attack, and learn about the city's dedication to peace following World War II.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 5

Uwajima / Uchiko

Rise early for a morning hike to Uwajima Castle, one of just 12 original Edo-period castles that remain intact. Continue to Uchiko, once a center of wax production. Take a walk in the town's well-preserved Yokaichi district, where beautifully crafted wooden merchant homes recall the prosperity of the Meiji period.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 6

Yakushima Island

The diverse ecology of Yakushima Island, including a subtropical coast and temperate rainforest in the interior, has earned this island World Heritage status. On a hike, discover the island's ancient Yakusugi cedar trees, many of which date back more than a thousand years. Our ship turns north toward the island of Kyushu this evening.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 7

Kagoshima

At the southern end of Kyushu, the city of Kagoshima sits just across the bay from the active volcano Sakurajima. Take a walk in Sengan-en Garden, designed by the city's ruling Shimadzu clan in 1658 to incorporate the bay and its simmering volcano. After lunch, travel along the Satsuma Peninsula to the village of Chiran, where the samurai designed gardens inspired by their travels.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 8

Nagasaki

Long before World War II, Nagasaki was a cosmopolitan trading center, drawing merchants from Europe and China to its picturesque harbor as early as the 1500s. Visit Oura Cathedral, the oldest Christian church in Japan, and venture into Sofukuji, a 400-year-old Ming-style Zen Buddhist temple. Visit Nagasaki Peace Park, where a poignant exhibition illustrates the aftermath of the atomic bomb attack on the city, and see the somber monument erected at ground zero. This afternoon, we chart our course for the Korean Peninsula.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 9

Ulsan, South Korea / Gyeongju

Dock in Busan, and travel to Gyeongju, the ancient capital of the Silla kingdom and the crown jewel of Korea's cultural heritage. Packed with the ruins of temples, pagodas, and palaces dating back more than a thousand years, the historic areas of the city have been collectively designated a UNESCO World Heritage site. Visit Bulguksa Temple, a masterpiece of Silla architecture originally built in A.D. 528. At the Gyeongju National Museum,

examine jewelry, weapons, and other Silla artifacts. See Cheomseongdae, a seventh-century observatory, and wander among towering royal burial mounds.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 10

At Sea

As we chart our course back to Japan, enjoy discussions with our naturalists. There are also an array of shipboard activities to experience.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 11

Matsue

Follow up the coast to Matsue, situated between a lake, a lagoon, and the sea. Tour the 17th-century Matsue Castle built as a defensive fortress and discover its clever design elements intended to foil the enemy. Continue to the Adachi Museum of Art, which blends an impressive collection of 20th-century Japanese art with a gem-like traditional garden.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 12

Kanazawa

Step into Old Japan in Kanazawa, once a powerful city ruled by the Maeda clan. Stroll past the lovely wooden homes of the samurai in the Nagamachi district, where the streets are intentionally narrow and winding to confuse enemies. Then explore the geisha and teahouse district of Higashi Chaya Machi. Next, wander the pathways of Kenroku-en, one of Japan's designated "three best landscape gardens," established in 1676 by the Maeda family and developed over 150 years.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAYS 13-14

Kanazawa / Disembark Ship / Tokyo

Disembark *National Geographic Resolution* and zip south on Japan's famous bullet train to Tokyo. Transfer to our hotel, located steps from the lively Ginza district. Get to know this vibrant city, the capital of Japan since the Meiji Restoration in 1868. Visit Meiji Jingu, a Shinto shrine dedicated to Emperor Meiji, who brought an end to Japan's long feudal period. Visit the Edo-Tokyo Museum, then meander through the historic Asakusa neighborhood around Tokyo's oldest temple, Senso-ji.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

■ DAY 15

Tokyo

Transfer to the airport for flights home.

Departure Time: Depart after 11:00 a.m. local time.

Departure City: Tokyo, Japan

Meals included: breakfast

Northbound

Kobe, Japan → Kanazawa, Japan

2024 Departure Dates

Aboard *National Geographic Resolution*

03 Sep

Alternative Routes

Visit Expeditions.com for more information.

2024 Departure Dates

13 Sep



National Geographic Resolution

Guests

138

Cabins

76

The sister ship to *National Geographic Endurance*, she explores polar & temperate regions

Our second new polar build, *National Geographic Resolution*, is named to honor the second voyage of the legendary Captain James Cook.

A fully-stabilized vessel of the highest ice class (PC5 Category A), she will enable adventurous guests to go where few have or can. *Resolution's* most striking exterior feature is her distinctive profile, the patented X-Bow®, a game-changing design that guarantees the smoothest, most comfortable ride in all kinds of conditions; and since it eliminates bow impact, a quieter ride, as well.

An equally impressive feature may well be her capacity: she carries just 138 guests, a commitment to expedition excellence over scale. Scandinavian-inflected, luxuriously appointed, her inviting interiors would be a destination in themselves. Because she is a Lindblad expedition ship, however, her attention is focused on the world outside— with acres of window glass to keep you connected to the stunning views beyond the pane, and a fleet of expedition tools to get you out exploring.

National Geographic Endurance and *National Geographic Resolution* are next-generation expedition ships. Purpose-built for polar navigation. Fully stabilized, highly strengthened, ice-class Polar Code PC5 (Category A) vessels, they are designed to navigate polar passages year-round, and safely explore uncharted waters, while providing exceptional comfort. The patented X-bow[®] is key to their design; its powerful wave-slicing action provides an extremely smooth ride even in adverse conditions, and even reduces spray on deck for superior observation. They carry a full suite of expedition tools, and offer a variety of experience enhancing amenities.



Cabin Categories

Category 1

Fore Deck: #406, 408, 411, 413, 415

Fore Deck, with two large windows, two singles that can convert to a queen, armchair, writing desk and chair, two bedside tables, window sofa, and a closet.



Category 2

Fore Deck: #410, 412, 414, 416-419, 421-427

Fore Deck, with two large windows, two single beds that can convert to a queen, window sofa, 2 seat sofa, coffee table, armchair, writing desk with an office chair, two bedside tables, and a closet.



Category 3

Main Deck: #512-524

Suite with balcony that features two balcony chairs, hammock, and a table; two single beds that convert to a queen, convertible sleeper sofa, writing desk with a chair, two bedside tables, and a closet.



Category 4

Lounge Deck: #608, 610, 612, 613-623

Suite with balcony that features two balcony chairs, hammock, and a table; two single beds that convert to a queen, convertible sleeper sofa, writing desk with a chair, two bedside tables, and a closet.



Category 5

Bridge Deck: #700-707, 712, 713, 715, 717

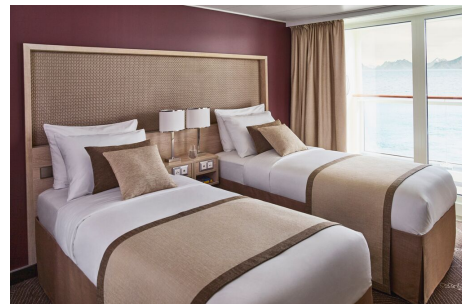
Cabin with balcony that features two balcony chairs, hammock, and a table; two single beds that convert to a queen; convertible sleeper sofa; coffee table; writing desk with chair; two bedside tables; and a closet.



Category 6

Bridge Deck: #714

Junior suite with balcony that features two balcony chairs, hammock, and table; two single beds that convert to a queen; pull-out sofa; writing desk with chair; two bedside tables; coffee table; espresso maker; and a closet. Guests receive a welcome amenity, complimentary laundry, priority access to one igloo reservation, and one spa appointment per departure.



Category 7

Bridge Deck: #708-711, 716, 718, 719, 721

These large balcony suites feature two balcony chairs, hammock, and table; two single beds that can convert to a queen; pull-out sofa; coffee table; writing desk and chair; espresso maker; hammock; and a large walk-in closet with full length mirror. Expanded bathroom has a double vanity, bathtub, towel warmer, and rain shower. Guests receive a welcome amenity, complimentary laundry, priority access to one igloo reservation, and one spa appointment per departure.



Category A Solo

Main Deck: #504-510, 513

Suite with balcony that features two balcony chairs and a table; single bed, writing desk with an office chair, bedside table, and a closet.



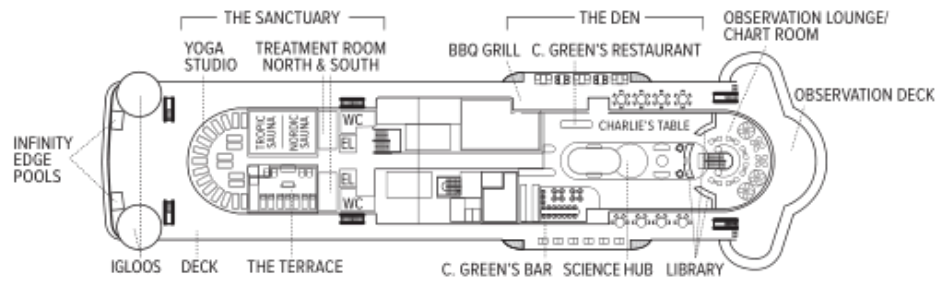
Category B Solo

Lounge Deck: #604-607, 609, 611

Suite with balcony that features two balcony chairs, hammock, and a table; single bed, bedside table, writing desk with chair, hammock, and a closet.

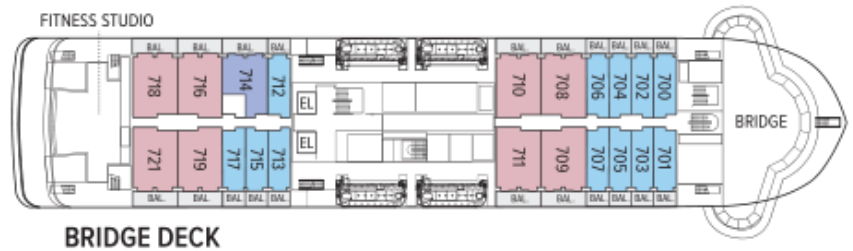


Observation Deck



Bridge Deck

- Category 5
- Category 6
- Category 7



Lounge Deck

- Category 4
- Category B Solo



Main Deck

- Category 3
- Category 2 Solo

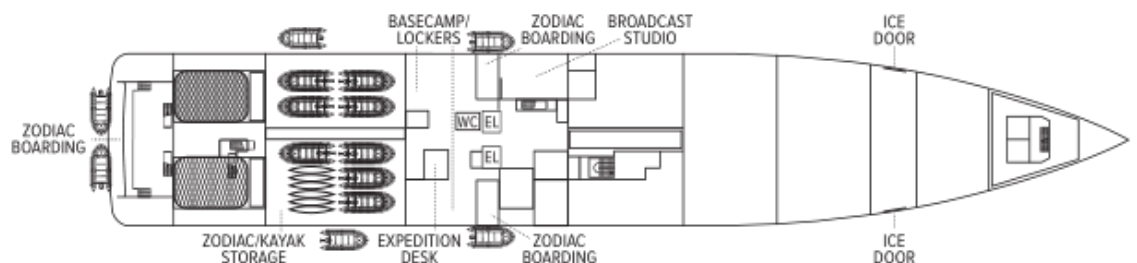


Fore Deck

- Category 1
- Category 2



Expedition Deck



Ship amenities

Public Areas

Reception; three dining areas; an observation lounge with bar, gym, wellness area, infinity-style outdoor hot tubs with adjacent igloos; library; main lounge with full service bar, 24-hour beverage station, state-of-the-art tech for films/presentations; B&H Photo locker and a photo workshop area; science hub; an onboard broadcast studio; an expedition base with lockers for expedition gear; and open access to the Bridge, Captain, officers and on-duty wildlife spotters.

Meals

Restaurant 270° features wrap-around views; two other dining areas offer lighter, made-to-order fare or intimate, small group dinners. All feature sustainable choices, local where possible, and unassigned, flexible, inclusive seating.

Cabins

All cabins face outside with large windows, private bathroom, and climate controls. Cabins are equipped with expedition command centers with iPad tablets, multiple electrical and USB outlets, TVs, with on demand entertainment, phone, Wi-Fi, clock, barometers, hygrometers, vanity mirror, mini refrigerator, small safe, ice bucket, glasses, hair dryer, reading lights and National Geographic Atlas. Luxury linens and pillows. Bathrooms outfitted with Rain showers & hand held shower, botanically inspired shampoo, conditioner, shower gel and lotion. Complimentary insulated water bottles. Balcony cabins have hammocks, chairs and table.

Expedition Equipment

Zodiac landing craft, kayaks, snowshoes, cross-country skis, an ROV and underwater video camera for unique access to the polar undersea, hydrophone, aerial remote-controlled camera and video microscope.

Special Features

A full-time doctor, undersea specialist, National Geographic photographer, Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor and video chronicler, an internet cafe and laundry. A forward and aft staircase, and elevators, reach all decks. Echoing the pioneering installation aboard *National Geographic Endurance*, artist Zaria Forman has curated a new exhibit, featuring a wide range of artists.



Wellness

A glass-enclosed yoga studio, gym, treatment rooms and spa relax area, and high and low-heat saunas with ocean views, staffed by wellness specialists.

Self-Disinfecting Ships

ACT Clean Coat™ is a light-activated, self-disinfecting cleaning process that continuously breaks down viruses, bacteria, mold, and airborne allergens across all ship surfaces. Not only does this create a cleaner, healthier shipboard environment for guests and crew alike, but this non-toxic, chemical-free system also saves more than one million gallons of water each year in our cleaning procedures, and reduces our carbon footprint as well as the amount of plastic and waste in our supply chain.

Special Offers

SUITE EXCLUSIVES

Spacious living areas and incredible views immerse you in the beauty of your marine surroundings. Our new Suite Exclusives package helps make your voyage all the more memorable. [Learn more](#)

10% OFF BACK-TO-BACK VOYAGES

Save 10% on consecutive departures, applicable on voyage fares only and not valid on extensions or airfare. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

BRINGING THE KIDS

We believe sharing an expedition with children is a life-enhancing experience. Take \$500 off for each child under the age of 18 on any departure. Not applicable on extensions or airfare. Call for details.

SAVE 5% TRAVELING AS A GROUP

Save 5% when traveling as a group of eight or more people. Valid on voyage fares only and not applicable on extensions or airfare. Deposit, final payments, and cancellation policies for group travel vary from our regular policies. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

COMBINING OFFERS

Certain offers may be combinable, up to two savings opportunities, except where noted otherwise. For example, travel with a group of 8 or more on back-to-back expeditions, and take advantage of both savings.

CELEBRATE LIFE'S MILESTONES

Celebrate a milestone with a group of eight or more and enjoy a special amenity package including: 5% savings on voyage fares, custom group photo, US\$150 shipboard credit for the group, and other special gifts. Milestone celebration to be communicated at time of booking. Valid for new bookings only on select departures, subject to availability, not applicable on airfare or extensions, and may not be combined with other offers. Deposit, final payments, and cancellation policies for group travel vary from our regular policies. Call for details.

Included in price

All accommodations aboard ship or in hotels per itinerary; all meals as indicated in the itinerary, both aboard and onshore; beer, wine, cocktails, and spirits aboard the ship (except certain super premium brands which are available for purchase); hors d'oeuvres, 24-hour access to snacks, premium coffees and teas, non-alcoholic beverages, and filtered water; excursions and airport transfers to and from recommended flights, as indicated in the itinerary; crew gratuities; exploration tools curated to destination, such as Zodiacs and kayaks; guidance and company of our leading expedition staff; assistance by the National Geographic Photography Expert and Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic certified photo instructor; access to the OM System Photo Gear Locker; presentations by expedition staff and expert guest speakers; complimentary reusable water bottle; services of a physician, physician's assistant, nurse practitioner, or paramedic; morning stretch classes and 24-hour access to exercise equipment; 24-hour access to lounges, observation decks, library, and other shared spaces; park and site entrance fees, special access permits, and port taxes. Unused services or items included in our programs are non-refundable.

Not included in price

Airfare (except flights when indicated as included); pre- and post-expedition extensions; additional hotel nights (except when indicated as included); private transfers; laundry, spa treatments, Wi-Fi, and phone services (except when indicated as included); travel protection plans; and passport, visa, and immigration fees.

Travel protection plan

We strongly recommend our guests to take advantage of our Travel Protection Plan. This plan offers comprehensive coverage to protect you from cancellation fees, costs incurred due to trip delays/interruption, damage or loss of baggage, medical assistance, and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S. residents only, and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date, Travel Protection premiums are non-refundable once plan is purchased. Learn more about our Travel Protection "Plus" Plan: <https://www.expeditions.com/terms-conditions/travel-protection-plan/>

Cancellation policy

Review our cancellation policy: <https://www.expeditions.com/cancellation-policy/>